

Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request 40

Date of Meeting: September 20, 2005

Date Submitted: September 14, 2005

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board
From: Parwez Alam, County Administrator
Kim Dressel, Management Services Director
Subject: Approval of Agreement with Alcohol Monitoring Systems, Inc for a Pilot Program for Alcohol Monitoring of Supervised Pretrial Release Defendants

Statement of Issue:

This agenda requests the approval of an Agreement (Attachment #1) with Alcohol Monitoring Systems, Inc. (AMS) for a three month pilot program to provide alcohol intake monitoring of certain pretrial release defendants.

Background:

During the May 24, 2005 Workshop on Leon County Jail Population Management the Board authorized the staff to enter into a three month pilot program to monitor the alcohol intake of certain pretrial release defendants (Attachment #2). The pilot would utilize at least five Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitors (SCRAM) devices to detect alcohol use by the defendants. The pilot would be funded from the Leon County Sheriff's Office Inmate Trust Fund.

Analysis:

The Court will direct the Supervised Pretrial Release (SPTR) staff to assign one of the five SCRAM units to certain defendants (Attachment #3). The SCRAM Bracelet will, at pre-programmed intervals, test the defendant for the presence of alcohol in the defendant's internal system being emitted as vapors through the skin. When the SCRAM Bracelet detects the presence of alcohol above a pre-set concentration limit, it will record a positive reading (Alert), the date and time, and will continually attempt to communicate with the SCRAM Modem to transmit the data.

Positive readings will be stored in the SCRAM Bracelet until it is within transmission distance of the SCRAM Modem. At a predetermined time each day, the Defendant is required to be in the same room as the SCRAM modem, triggering the SCRAM Bracelet to communicate with the SCRAM modem. When the transmission to the modem is complete, the modem will then communicate the information to the SPTR staff. The SPTR staff will take appropriate action based on the procedures established for the pilot program.

The staff will present a report to the Board at the conclusion of the three month pilot to determine if the system serves as a deterrent to alcohol usage and is determined by the Court to be successful. At the conclusion of the pilot the staff will request Board's direction regarding the continuation of the program.

Options:

1. Approve the Agreement with Alcohol Monitoring Systems, Inc. for a Pilot Program for Alcohol Monitoring of Supervised Pretrial Release Defendants and authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement.
2. Do not approve the Agreement with Alcohol Monitoring Systems, Inc.
3. Board direction

Recommendation:

23

Option #1.

Attachments:

1. Alcohol Monitoring Systems, Inc. Agreement
2. Ratification of the May 24, 2005 Workshop on Leon County Jail Population Management
3. SCRAM System Description

[Back](#)

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